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## AFRL technology assists in Katrina relief

*by Marilyn R. Unroe, AFRL Material Laboratory*

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — A large bandwidth antenna technology, currently under development at the Air Force Research Laboratory, was recently used in support of the American Red Cross and first responders in the Biloxi, Miss. area. The Advanced Technology Demonstrator (ATD) antenna and its accessory components were requested by the Red Cross because of its broadband performance and its rapid deployment capability into a disaster area. The antenna system was used to establish satellite communications links for the first responders and local law enforcement officers at the command post. In addition, the assistance provided at the command post included helping local victims with on-line FEMA applications and personal internet and e-mail connectivity.

The antenna development was jointly funded by the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Air Force Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) program and was built and characterized by SRS Technologies-Systems Technology Group, Huntsville, Ala.

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